BENGALURU, TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2022 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 27 | Min 14 | Humidity 81% Generally cloudy sky. Misty morning Sensex 59,183 | Nifty 17,625 | Gold 47,703 | Silver 61,627 | Dollar 74.43 | Euro 83.93 | GBP 100.04

DÉJÀ VU ANYONE? IT'S ONLINE V/S OFFLINE, AGAIN

PAGE 2

FRESH COVID MEASURES ON THE CARDS

PAGE 3

CITIZENS PUT THEIR BEST FOOT FORWARD

PAGE 7

Past sell-by dates of vaccine vials leave parents apprehensive as teens line up for jabs on first day of vaccination

A VIAL AGO

Curious case of expired vaccine vials

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KAUSHIK JN

Covid-19 vaccination for teenagers kickstarted on Monday in Bengaluru. However, confusion prevailed over the use of Covaxin vials past the expiry date of six months, and whether these could be administered till 12 months.

Some of the parents were apprehensive to get their children vaccinated on Monday in private hospitals. For instance, a resident of Koramangala, walked in with her 15-year-old male child to a private hospital in Electronic City to get the teenager vaccinated.

At the hospital, she was told that they were using stocks which had crossed the expiry date.

"I registered my son on the cowin portal for vaccination. When I reached the hospital, the officials pointed out the Covaxin vials had passed the expiry date, though it could be taken as Bharat Biotech had said Covaxin has proven its efficacy beyond six months and could be used for up to 12 months from the date of manufacture. Anyhow, I was apprehensive to get my son vaccinated and came back home," the resident said.

"According to some of the reports, the vials need to go for relabelling; once that is done, people can have some confidence. But seeing the expired doses, it is just not possible to take the risk and get the child vaccinated. We are told that fresh stocks would arrive by January 10; I will have my son vaccinated then," she said.

> **"According to reports, vials need to go for relabelling. Once that is done, people can have some confidence. After seeing the expiry date, it is not possible to take the risk...**
> — Parent

She pointed out that some of her family and friends who got their children vaccinated, were not checking the expiry dates: "Some wouldn't know if they could check the manufacturing dates on the vials, and they have gone ahead and taken the shot. But after getting to know about the past sell-by dates, now many are worried.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

No city for children

As pandemic restricts children to homes, instances of child sexual abuse rise

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Every single day, a child is abused or sexually assaulted in the city of Bengaluru, according to complaints registered with the police. The number of POCSO (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences) cases went up to 370 cases in 2021, due to various factors.

Children are at home most of the time due to the pandemic and are more vulnerable to predators who could very well be their neighbours or relatives, said P Lakshapathi, founder and executive director of Association for Promoting Social Action (APSA), which works with Childline, Bengaluru.

The number of cases were fewer pre-covid-19. "In most cases, parents are hesitant to come forward and report as the suspects are mostly known to them — relatives or neighbours. Families become hostile and withdraw cases often. According to a study, 90% of the POCSO cases are acquitted due to lack of evidence which discourages people from coming forward to report. We received about 38 calls of POCSO in 2021, which was lower compared to pre-covid-19 times; it could be possible that people are more aware now and are directly approaching the police in such instances," he said.

According to the city crime records bureau, 370 cases were reported in 2021 of which 358 cases were detected, while only 278 and 355 cases were reported in 2020 and 2019, of which 272 and 350 were detected, respectively.

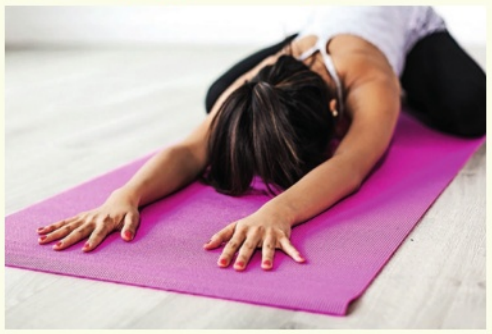
CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Bookworms, unite

Bibliophiles, what are you reading these days? Is there a book or an author that has amazed you recently? Discuss it with like-minded people at this special club for bookworms and share the magic of some wordsmiths who not only influenced us but shaped our lives in some way.
Where: Lahe Lahe, Indiranagar
When: Jan 8, 4–5 pm
Register: 9886294444

02 Yoga your way



Yoga refreshes your mind and spirit, tones your body and keeps your internal organs and hormonal system in balance. All the more reason for people of all ages to do yoga. In fact, yoga asanas are one of the few physical exercises you can continue doing as you age. Sign up for this online session on yoga and exercises that are perfect for beginners and senior citizens too.
Where: Online
When: Jan 1 onwards, 10 am
Tickets: Rs 499, insider.in

03 Musical night

When Chai Met Toast is back with their new (and first!) album, and with it comes their multi-city tour to bring it straight to a stage near you. Sign up for the When We Feel Young Tour - a series of bright and happy events that aim to dispel two full years of gloom. Your favourite band is about to make its way across 12 cities, where they'll play 12 joyful shows, where you can hum, sway, sing along and celebrate the band's first ever album.
Where: UB City, Ashok Nagar
When: Jan 22, 8pm onwards
Tickets: Rs 999 onwards, insider.in

Déjà vu anyone? It's online v/s offline, again

School associations oppose classrooms closing; some principals are however, apprehensive

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KAUSHIK JN

Vaccinations have begun in full flow for teenagers aged 15 – 18, on school campuses

The online versus offline debate has been reignited following a steep rise in Covid cases. With the State Government planning to impose fresh curbs, there is tension among the education fraternity on whether the government wants to continue offline classes or not.

The private school associations are now requesting Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai not to close schools in the state as a preventive measure. Associated Managements of Primary and Secondary Schools in Karnataka wrote a letter to the Chief Minister on Monday not to prioritise the closure of schools.

"It is better to take more strict action for controlling Covid-19, rather than shutting down schools. Schools are already following strict measures to curb the pandemic, but others are spreading the virus in public places. The virus can spread rapidly at bus stops, malls, restaurants, coaching centres, marriage ceremonies, temples, and playgrounds as the public do not follow any preventive steps," said Associated Managements of Primary and Secondary Schools in Karnataka General Secretary D Shashi Kumar.

Members suggest taking all the necessary actions to curb the virus on priority instead. The core committee member of the organisation Kiran Prasad said: "Children have already lost out on social interactions in the last two years. Now, SSLC students are due for examinations, it is very difficult for them to write

> **Schools are already following strict measures to curb the pandemic, but others are spreading the virus in public places**
> –D Shashi Kumar, General Secretary, KAMS

due to a lack of classroom interaction. We hope the government does not close schools abruptly. In Bengaluru, we can go online. The same thing will not be applicable to rural areas. Currently, the positivity rate is 0.9 per cent to 1.2 per cent. If the positivity is more in Bengaluru, we can take a call."

Principals and heads, had different reactions on the question looming large. "At this point, we plan to have offline classes and have not had any issues from parents. We will continue to monitor the situation and will take a call based on the government protocols," said Shweta Sastri, Managing Director, Canadian International School.

However, Aloysius D'mello, Principal, Greenwood High International School, said: "The rise in cases has made parents very worried and most of them prefer online until things improve. Board classes will need to function offline as they involve practicals and viva."

Sunita Prabhakar, Director, Gopalan Foundation, echoed similar thoughts. "At the moment, there is a lot of apprehension and anxiety among our parents. They do not wish to send their wards to school as students have not been vaccinated. As school administrators, we are ready to take proper safety measures and follow all the guidelines prescribed by the health authorities; it's better to continue online classes till covid is controlled in the city."

"Considering the safety of our students, staff, and their family members we are temporarily suspending the offline classes for a few days until the situation improves and switching to online classes from tomorrow," said Nagaveni T, Principal, Orchids - The International School, Mysore Road.

The latest con: A 'free' Omicron test

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Chances are that you may have received an email promising a 'free' Omicron test. But this is more of a con than a genuine claim, and you may end up letting cyber crooks infect your device and empty your bank account. Many states across the country are reporting this new fraud in the name of Omicron.

Sources in the police department said that cyber crooks send emails with malicious links and files. If people open such a link or a file, their system — cell phone or computer — is compromised and criminals gain access to vital information.

In some instances, when someone hoping to get a free test clicks a link, bank account information is sought innocuously. Those gullible enough to divulge private information find their accounts emptied, according to the advisory issued by the cyber cell on December 30.

In many cases, people ended up sharing their details with fraudsters and lost their money in this time of crisis, said a police officer. The officer said that a formal complaint is yet to be filed in relation to such cheating cases.

"In most cases, people receive an email which claims to be from the National Health Service (NHS) of the UK," a police officer said, adding that the message offers the Omicron test. The email senders also instil fear by saying that if the test is not taken, the recipient will be placed in isolation to prevent the spread of the infection, said the officer.

Sources in the state police said that cyber crooks also trawl the browsing history of a target and reach out if information on the Omicron test has been looked up.

Moreover, cyber crooks use addresses that appear to be from private and government hospitals. Police are advising people to scrutinise domain names to check the authenticity of websites and report any suspicious activity on the cybercrime portal.

Fresh covid measures on the cards

CM to discuss precautionary steps in a Cabinet meeting; industry associations say no to lockdown

PICS: KAUSHIK JN

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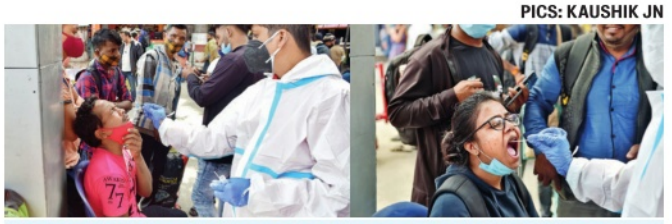

Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai has said that the state Cabinet on Thursday will discuss measures to control the pandemic without affecting the daily life of the common people.

Bommai said, "Covid-19 and Omicron are spreading fast throughout the country and neighbouring states. We will discuss this with the expert committee on Tuesday evening. The experts have been asked to suggest appropriate measures to control the pandemic without affecting the daily life of the common people."

The opinion of the expert committee will be discussed and appropriate decisions will be taken in the Cabinet meeting scheduled to be held on Thursday, he said. He said that as the speed of infection is higher, expert opinion will be sought to manage the situation in the state.

BBMP COVID-19 HELPLINE NUMBERS

Control rooms have been set up in all eight zones for queries related to Covid-19 in BBMP limits. The 24×7 control rooms will provide all the information related to covid-19 like triaging, testing, details of UPHCs, hospitalisation, vaccination etc.

Bommanahalli: 8884666670
Dasarahalli: 94806 83132
East: 9480685163
Mahadevapura: 08023010102
RR Nagar: 08028601050
South: 8431816718
West: 08068248454
Yelahanka: 9480685961

No lockdown, says KASSIA

Karnataka Small Scale Industries Association (KASSIA) has appealed to the CM not to announce any stringent measures like lockdown. KASSIA administrator P Shashidhar said: "The micro and small-scale industries are yet to recover fully from the devastating effects of the earlier lockdowns during the first and second wave of the pandemic.

Rather than resorting to steps like partially or fully shutting down industries, raw material outlets and reducing the supply of industrial oxygen to industries, the government should focus on enforcing wearing of masks and maintenance of social distancing by citizens in public places and clamping down on public events and mass gatherings, while reiterating that it will advise its member-units and MSEs to scrupulously follow all Covid-19 protocols and SOPs announced by the government. Another lockdown may force many MSMEs to down shutters and add to unemployment."

Bengaluru logs 1,000 cases

Covid cases on Monday breached the 1,000-mark in Bengaluru with the city reporting 1,041 cases and three deaths while the total tally in Karnataka was 1,290 and five deaths. The total positivity rate in the state is now 1.62 per cent.

Vaccinations for 15-18 kicks off

Around 59 per cent of targeted beneficiaries (6,38,891) in the age group of 15-18 received their first dose of vaccine in the state. Bengaluru Urban saw 27 per cent (8,784 against the target of 32,800) of the beneficiaries getting the shots while Haveri had an achievement of 273 per cent (13,657 got the shots against the target of 5,000). The drive to cover those above 60 years and with comorbidities would be launched from January 10," the CM said.

Cop suspended for taking bribe from dowry case accused

The city police commissioner on Monday suspended a police inspector attached to Madiwala police station for taking money from the accused in a dowry case in return for gracing him with an official favour.

The incident came to light when the accused approached the city police commissioner with the complaint against the police inspector along with the audio and video recordings which had proof of the money taken.

Taking cognisance, police commissioner Kamal Pant, directed the jurisdictional DCP to probe the matter and submit a report .

Based on the report, Pant suspended Sunil Y Naik, pending inquiry for further action.

The accused officer Naik had arrested the accused in a dowry case based on the court direction. However, he is said to have taken money from the accused to show official favours, police sources said.

When there was an increasing demand for more money, the accused approached the city police chief seeking help. **BMB**

Eatery employee injured in gas cylinder blast

A 28-year-old eatery employee was injured after a fire broke out due to a suspected LPG cylinder leakage in Chandra Layout during the early hours of Monday.

Officials said that the residents in and around Ganapathi Circle rushed out after hearing the loud noise and noticed the fire. The injured Mahesh was engulfed in fire and was running on the street crying for help. They doused the fire and alerted the fire and emergency control room. The fire tenders reached the spot within 15 minutes to put out the fire by then the residents had managed to contain it.

Mahesh was rushed to Victoria Hospital. Police said that the employees had finished work and shut the hotel around 10 pm. The gas leak could have occurred then and accumulated in the kitchen.

Police said that on Monday around 7 am, Mahesh came to work and tried to light the stove when the cylinder exploded. The police are questioning the staff and have sought the help of FSL team.

FAKE NEWS BUSTER MIRROR

ESSENTIAL OILS CAN'T PREVENT COVID

THE CLAIM

Quercetin, essential oils and other supplements can protect you from the coronavirus or treat Covid-19.

SO, WHAT'S THE TRUTH?

According to hopkinsmedicine.org, taking quercetin, zinc, or vitamin D and other nutritional supplements cannot prevent or treat coronavirus infection or Covid-19. The same is true of essential oils — they are not effective to prevent coronavirus disease. The best ways to stay safe from Covid-19 are getting vaccinated, wearing a mask (especially in crowded or indoor settings), keeping your hands clean and practicing physical distancing.

BUST FAKE NEWS WITH MIRROR

9591233247

Let's separate the news from the noise, Bengaluru. Tell us about that incredible-sounding story/news/alert that you've received on WhatsApp or social media and Bangalore Mirror researchers and editors will see if it checks out. If it doesn't, we'll call it out

TOPCOMMENTS

Potholes here, potholes there, potholes everywhere

Our story 'You have 15 days to fill up potholes on 751 km' had a lot of responses from readers, ranging from the incendiary, to the unexpected. Here's what readers said: Adi (@ajeebinsaan), simply said, "Another eyewash."

Anil Khera (@AnilKhera11), commented, "'Potholes in Bengaluru' story is old and repetitive. For years, Bengaluru potholes are being filled... it is a sorry state of this wonderful city."

Pradeep Mishra (@Pradeep19905246) took a more optimistic tone, "Hope in 2022, road condition will change."

Musthafa Jamal (@mjamalson) had a one-liner question, probably summing up the situation best. "Again? They filled 23000 km by rolling on the floor laughing."

Pramod Nigam, commented, "Potholes and bad roads or a subject of discussion in Bengaluru for the last several years. Saw a video that 9.6 km of Kanpur metro was completed in just 25 months, while our smart roads in CBD area are still work-in-progress for over two years!"

WEBHITS

3 most-read articles on the Mirror site

- Bengaluru in red list, tougher rules loom
- KSRTC plans to go electric
- Tripping on Ashoka the Great

All by themselves

Residents of Krishnappa Garden come to their own rescue; collect funds, employ labour to fill potholes, clear garbage and make lakeside road safe

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This road was covered with garbage, wild weeds and potholes before. Now, it is visibly cleaner

Balachandra, a resident, began the transformation process by introducing the idea in a WhatsApp group for residents. He urged people to volunteer funds and labour for this

Residents of Krishnappa Garden, a small residential colony in East Bengaluru, took it upon themselves to clean up their locality after the authorities concerned ignored their complaints.

Currently, the locality is clean and its serene and pristine appearance is attracting a bee line of volunteers of political parties who are desperate to take credit for the good work. Some have been spotted posing for photographs in front of tractors carrying debris too, said a few proud residents of the locality.

The colony, housing approximately 100 homes, is nestled in a closed pocket between Bagmane Tech Park (BTP) on one side and BEML Estate on the other side in C V Raman Nagar.

Just like other parts of the city, this locality too has faced its share of civic issues. The only road leading to the colony, alongside a lake was spotted with potholes and overgrown wild weeds and garbage haunted the residents.

Many people from nearby colonies were dumping their garbage on this road or into the lake, breaking the chain-linked fence surrounding it. Streeties only added to the list of troubles by scattering the garbage everywhere. The road leading to the colony was also being used by by miscreants to drink after dusk. Empty and broken liquor bottles, cigarette butts, and food packets were scattered across the stretch. Cab and minibus drivers of offices located in Bagmane Tech Park, as well as vendors and delivery boys have been using the road and the lakeside to defecate in public. Women, children and others, naturally, did not find the road safe.

Balachandra, a resident, began the transformation process by introducing the idea to clean the locality in a WhatsApp group for residents. He urged people to volunteer funds and labour for this. Initially, the response was underwhelming. Gradually, the attitude of people changed as they saw change. More people began to contribute.

Another resident, Latha Rajeev, took up the responsibility to track the inflow and outflow of the funds needed for the activities proposed. The two residents were then joined by Bharathi Anand, Gautam Kar and many others later, who started engaging labourers.

With the help of tractor trolleys, loads of garbage, many overgrown weeds and heaps of other muck were lifted and deposited at a designated dumpyard of BBMP.

AGENTS OF CHANGE

The residents also installed banners to discourage littering. Potholes on the road were filled up using jelly. "It costed around Rs 50,000 to clean up the mess. However, some outsiders kept dumping garbage still. Wherever possible, people were identified from addresses available in packages and bills. We contacted them and advised them to not to repeat the offence. At times people were caught red handed too," Rajeev said.

Letters were written to Karnataka Lake Development and Conservation Authority for rejuvenation and all-round development of the lake and to Bagmane Tech Park Developers to involve them in security, lake maintenance and construction of public toilets. Byappanahalli Police Station was also approached to upgrade patrolling in and around Krishnappa Garden Road post sunset.

"It has been three months since the process of cleaning and maintenance of the road started and now it is an everyday activity which is being pursued tirelessly and voluntarily by residents. The road is visibly different and cleaner. Responses from Karnataka Lake Development and Conservation Authority as well as the police have been very positive. Police patrolling has increased and warnings have been issued by the police to mischief makers. One issue that continues to trouble us is the dumping of garbage that happens in the dead of the night," Balachandra said.

Rejuvenated BFC to take on SC East Bengal

The club is hoping to win in the 2021-22 Indian Super League match at the Athletic Stadium, today

Bengaluru FC will look to win against beleaguered SC East Bengal in the 2021-22 Indian Super League match at the Athletic Stadium, on Tuesday.

Bengaluru FC are high on confidence after notching up their second win of the campaign as Marco Pezzaiuoli's team showed a lot of character against Chennaiyin FC in their last outing.

Silva has been the shining light for the former champions in a season where they have lacked the spark until the last game and before that managing to keep a clean sheet after a long time.

Besides Cleiton, Udanta Singh also seemed to have sprung back to form, which is evident from not just the goal but also through his overall performance. Ashique Kuruniyan has also looked good with the likes of Parag Shrivas, Roshan Naorem, and Ajith Kamaraj is also impressing in fits and starts.

"Winning games gives us energy, we scored our last two penalties after we missed our first two, these things make a difference in these games. Leon Augustine and Musavu-King will miss the game due to injury while Sarthak Golui is still not available due to personal "reasons," said Bengaluru FC Pezzaiuoli. **-IANS**

whatsapp MIRROR
9591233247
Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Quick, fix it
Nandini Layout

The cover on the drain near the Canara Bank ATM is broken and must be replaced. This is dangerous for pedestrians and motorists who may not be able to see it at night.

15 years and counting
LBS Nagar

In Anjanapura Layout, 80 Feet Road lacks water and sanitary pipeline connections. It has been this way for 15 years.

Rash roads
Gangamma Circle

The roads in this area are in a bad shape. BBMP must fix them.

New normal, old crime rate?

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With more names of offenders adding to the city police's list, the crime rate is slowly picking up to the pre-covid rate. Compared to 2020, the crime rate went up slightly from 37,836 cases to 39,467 cases in 2021. Though it has increased by only 4 per cent, the police are expecting it to increase this year due to the financial crises and job loss faced by many during the pandemic, which is resulting in new offenders.

Though the cases are quite less compared to 2019, crimes like dacoity and chain snatching has gone up from 30 and 152 in 2020 to 35 and 163 in 2021 (Till December 26), respectively.

According to the City Crime Records Bureau, thefts committed by domestic helps have increased from 134 in 2020 to 177 in 2021 and motor vehicle thefts have increases from 3,797 in 2020 to 4,041 cases in 2021. Regular thefts have increased from 749 in 2020 to 1,145 in 2021. Although, murder cases have decreased from 173 in 2020 to 149 in 2021 however, cases around murder for gain has doubled from 4 in 2020 to 8 in 2021.

City police commissioner Kamal Pant told Bangalore Mirror that crime might increase this year due to financial crises and job loss experienced by people during the pandemic. He said that many new offenders are coming up due to the same, which is becoming a difficult task for the police to trace them.

Crime rate slowly touching pre-covid rate. Pant says the rise is due to financial crises, job loss experienced during pandemic

A senior police officer said that petty thefts like mobile snatching and pick pocketing are increasing.

"Many youths who have discontinued their education due to the pandemic and couldn't get jobs have started to commit thefts to make a living. We are advising and counselling such first time offenders. Tracing such new offenders is very difficult and we are already keeping an eye on youths who are likely to get into the wrong path," he said.

The number of cheating cases also increased from 1,868 in 2020 to 2,328 in 2021 and kidnapping increased from 707 cases to 823 in 2021. The cases of outrage of women modesty went up from 547 to 560 cases last year. However, when compared to the pre-covid times, the numbers are very less during the pandemic.

Mission free anti-rabies vaccine for stray animals

Bengaluru's multi-speciality govt vet hospital needs urgent revamp

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The multi-speciality hospital on Queen's Road in Vasanth Nagar lies in a sorry state

The multi-speciality veterinary hospital on Queen's Road in Vasanth Nagar needs a management and infrastructural revamp, and now!

The multi-speciality government veterinary hospital in the heart of the city has been offering free anti-rabies vaccine (ARV) only for cows and goats, says animal rescuers of the city. If any other stray animals such as dogs or cats would need the anti-rabies vaccine, the attender has to pay for the vaccine, which doesn't make any sense, they opine.

There are hardly a few cows and goats in the city, and more than them, there are other animals such as dogs, cats and other stray animals such as donkeys, pigs, mules and horses. "This has been an ancient rule observed and followed in Bengaluru since the we got Independence. Earlier, the city was an agricultural hub filled where farmers owned several cows and goats. The farmers could avail free anti-rabies vaccine whenever a cow or a goat got bitten by a stray dog," said an animal rescuer. "Following the same norms in this present era doesn't make sense as the city now has more stray dogs, cats and other animals who need the free vaccine availability," the rescuer added.The hospital also lacks a stretcher to carry a sick or injured animal to the examination table. Many rescuers who have visited this hospital share their unpleasant experiences.

They allege that often no hospital staff turns up to attend sick animals. In an instance, rescuers had to do the dressing themselves for an injured stray animal, and to get cotton dressing to cover the injury, they had to wait for about 10 minutes.

One of the rescuers who took a calf that was attacked and seriously injured by a pack of dogs in the wee hours could not get anti-rabies vaccine and the attending doctor asked the rescuer to bring the calf after 10.00 am to get it vaccinated. The quality of the X-ray is also not good.

A rescuer brought this issue to the notice of Member of Parliament and animal activist Maneka Sanjay Gandhi, who wrote to a chief veterinarian in the city to conduct an inspection and submit a report with recommendations as to how to improve the services at the institution.

Chief veterinarian Dr Navaz Shariff, after taking stock of the situation, said that there is a substantial load of around 80 to 90 patients per day at the hospital, and there is a man-power issue in addition to the infrastructural problems.

> **There is a substantial load of around 80-90 patients per day. The man-power issue is in addition to the infrastructural problems**
>
> –Dr Navaz Shariff, chief vet

According to his observations, the hospital, at present, has no technician available for monitoring the digital X-ray, semi-auto-analyser, CBC machine and ultrasonography. There is an urgent requirement of three technicians to work in shifts especially during the night. The hospital also requires physio-laser equipment for addressing its functional requirements. It was also observed that two posts of veterinary specialist officers were vacant.

The budget also needs to be specified for purchase of medicine and ancillaries each month. There is also a deficiency of Group-D employees who would take care of hygiene and sanitation of the hospital.

Dr Shariff wrote back to Maneka Gandhi with a copy to the secretary of Animal Husbandry Department Major Manivannan, who reassured that he would look into it the issue and come up with a solution.

Salut, says Karnataka

Karnataka seems to be getting its spirits high, resulting in an increase in the alcohol tax revenue collection

The state's alcohol and beverage sales in the April-December 2021 period have outpaced last financial year's numbers. This is a sign of a healthy pickup in discretionary spending of consumers.People have been picking up their favourite liquor and beer, probably cheering stable excise duties. While retailers sold 41.725 million carton boxes (CBs) of liquor in April-December 2020, the number jumped by about 6.8 million boxes in the same period of 2021. As for beer, while retailers sold 15.6 million CBs in the nine-month period last year, the numbers rose by 2.8 million boxes this year.

This has led to an increase in tax revenues too. The excise department, which regulates the sector, has already met 79 per cent of the 2021-22 fiscal year's revenue target of Rs 24,580 crore. Last year, the department had achieved about 74 per cent of the target by December end.

However, there was a dip in beer sales of

The excise department, which regulates the sector, has already met 79 per cent of the 2021-22 fiscal year's revenue target of Rs 24,580 crore

about 100,000 CBs in November and December, compared to the same period last year. Liquor sales declined by about 200,000 CBs in December, according to excise department data. Distillers, brewers and retailers have done well this fiscal year as sales of alcoholic beverages bounced back in the July-September quarter, an indication of a speedy economic rebound.

While liquor and beer sales were in the negative territory in May and June this fiscal year due to widespread restrictions in the wake of the second wave of the covid-19 pandemic, they bounced back from July onwards. The excise duty collection trends are sure to provide some relief for the government of chief minister Basavaraj Bommai as the administration is struggling to recover from the huge expenditure bills brought upon by the first and second waves. In his budget in March 2021, the then chief minister BS Yediyurappa had spared the industry of additional taxes as the duties were raised twice last year to make up for the revenue shortfall during last year's harsh lockdown.

—BMB

A childhood destroyed, daily

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"During the pandemic, we have seen the cases increasing as children have started to use mobile phones; many are exposed to the internet and they are harassed online and their photos misused by unknown persons. In many cases, children are eve-teased and verbally abused in vulgar language and only few are reported," Nagasimha G Rao, director of Child Rights Trust, told BM.

He said another reason could be girls in borderline age eloping with boys older than 18. "Cases of eloping would also fall in the ambit of POCSO as the girl would be a minor and the boy would be booked for having sexual activities with the minor girl. In some cases of child marriage, we insist to register the case under POCSO so that child marriage is taken seriously and the possible sexual acitivites could be prevented in other cases," he said.

A senior police officer noted that the instances have not increased but the number of people coming forward to report has gone up as people are now more aware of POCSO. "Unlike before, now we take POCSO cases very seriously and immediately secure the suspect. We don't delay taking complaints in such cases and hence more people are now approaching the police," he said.

'Bulli Bai' app case: Engineering student arrested from B'luru

Mumbai Police Cyber Cell detained a 21-year-old engineering student from Bengaluru, in connection with the 'Bulli Bai' application case on Monday.

Mumbai Police has not revealed the identity of the suspect detained from Bengaluru yet, except for his age. Police have registered a case against unknown culprits under relevant sections of IPC and the IT Act.

Earlier in the day, Mumbai Police had also filed a first information report (FIR) against unknown persons based on complaints that doctored photographs of women were uploaded for auction on 'Bulli Bai' application hosted by GitHub platform.

On Sunday, West Mumbai Cyber Police station registered a case against the 'Bulli Bai' app developers and Twitter handles that promoted the app.

The case has been registered against the unknown culprits under sections 153(A) (Promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion etc), 153(B) (Imputations, assertions prejudicial to national integration), 295(A) (Deliberate and malicious acts, intended to outrage religious feelings), 354D (stalking), 509 (word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman), 500 (criminal defamation) of the Indian Penal Code and Section 67 (publishing or transmitting obscene material in electronic form) of Information Technology Act.

After both the Delhi and Mumbai police lodged FIR in the matter under relevant sections, Union Minister for Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw, in a tweet on Sunday said, "Government of India is working with police organizations in Delhi and Mumbai on this matter." **ANI**

Once in a vial

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

However, the hospital we went to was clear and told us about the vials. In Karnataka, the drive has been carried out without considering the validity of the old stocks. Now most children wouldn't want to take the vaccines and will be apprehensive," she said.

Responding to a query from BM on the usage of expired vials, a spokesperson at the hospital said: "At Cloudnine, we are not administering any expired vaccines. We will be strictly following government orders.

The manufacturer has stated that based on the approval from Drugs Controller General (India), the shelf life has been extended. They are yet to take the stock from us to replace or relabel it; action is awaited. The same has been informed to our customers."

Another parent from Benson Town pointed out: "If vaccinations are to be carried out in school and college campuses, we will not know the vaccine manufacturing date, as many children wouldn't ask. So, it was important for the government to start the drive once all the vaccines were relabelled. Otherwise, it creates a sense of fear in the parents and even children."

At Motherhood Hospitals, over 340 children got vaccinated on Monday across all the six centres in Karnataka. "We used the old vaccine stock, which has the expiry date of March 2022. Currently, we have two batches of the vaccine. One batch has the expiry date of March 2022 and another of May 2022. Children with comorbidities were given vaccines after full clearance by pediatricians across units," said Dr Vijay Aggarwal, head of medical operations, Motherhood Hospitals.

Karthik Rajagopal, chief operating officer, Manipal Hospitals, said the hospital is set to get adequate doses of Covaxin to get the children inoculated. "An overall 250+ children were inoculated on Monday. We will be receiving adequate doses of Covaxin this evening from Bharat Biotech to cater to the demand to fulfill adolescent vaccination as well as booster doses for the priority group under senior citizens. The company has informed us they have selected us as one of the hospitals which will be getting the new stock," said Rajagopal.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, K.Perumal, S/o.Kathrivel, Residing at #596, KHB Quarters, 7th C Block, PSK Naidu Road, Doddigunta Cox Town, Bengaluru-560005, have changed my name to Muhammad Rahmathulla vide affidavit dated 09/11/2021 before Notary A.Idinabba, Bengaluru.

I, Maheshwari Perumal, W/o.K.Perumal, residing at #596, KHB Quarters, 7th C Block, PSK Naidu Road, Doddigunta Cox Town, Bengaluru-560005 have changed my name to Ayesha vide affidavit dated 09/11/2021 before Notary A. Idinabba, Bengaluru.

I, Shivakumar Kinni R/o Elegant Valley Apartment, Sf-205a, Rajarajeshwarinagar, Bengaluru-560098 have changed my minor son's name from Arshit to Arshit Kinni

WE, Maheshwari Perumal and K.Perumal, residing at #596, KHB Quarters, 7th C Block, PSK Naidu Road, Doddigunta Cox Town, Bengaluru-560005, have changed the name of our minor son from P. Lingesh to Yusuf vide affidavit dated 09/11/2021 before Notary A.Idinabba, Bengaluru.

I, Sourabhi Rao W/o Sriram Srinivasan R/o Brenwood Appartment, Flat - E305, Dodanamanagala Chikknaga mangala Road B'luru-560100 have changed my name to Sourabhi Vijayrao Rao.

I, Sudhanshu Kumar R/o 92, 1st Floor, 3rd Cross, Ashraya Layout 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560048 have changed my minor daughter's name from Aahira Jha to Shanvi Jha for all purposes.

I, Krishna Kanta Mitra S/O, Naresh Mandal R/o Flat No 105, 77 East Urbanest By Modern Spaces, Cozy Home Layout, Sree Narayana Nagar, Chikkadunnasandra, Kadagrahara, 562125 have changed my name to Krishna Kant Mitra for all purposes.

I, Shivakumar Kinni R/o Elegant Valley Apartment, Sf-205a, Rajarajeshwarinagar, Bengaluru-560098 have changed my minor daughter's name from Anushi to Anushi Kinni

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Best foot forWARD

Citizen groups having to jolt ward committees from their inertia and do their job

Melvin Mathew
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The biggest complaint from most wards is the pathetic condition of roads

Seems like ward committees (WC) are not having the required impact yet and need an extra push from citizens and residents groups to get going.

Citizen groups told Bangalore Mirror that despite having ward committees that are vital to local governance, no changes are being fast-tracked. The committees also complain of fund shortages. So at the end resident welfare associations and citizen groups are having to exert pressure for work to get done.

"We want the ward committees to be stronger as the citizen groups represent only one part of the society -- usually the middle and upper class. The ward committees are open for all and a constitutional platform to represent local issues. But, citizen groups can mount pressure to get the works done," said Abdul Aleem, President of ChangeMakers of Kanakapura Road (CMKR). CMKR was pivotal in fixing the Anjanapura Double Road after they held a unique protest in coracles on the slushy road.

"Ward committees are not being informed properly. The frequency of the meetings has to be increased. The committees are forced to not implement changes in the neighbourhood due to fund crunches but RWAs manage to somehow implement it after collecting funds," said a member of Pulikeshinagar RWA (PRWA). Vishnu Prasad from Save Bellandur alleged that ward committees comprise people with political affiliations, but it is the citizen's groups that have to push for what is right for the ward. "We have seen this in Bellandur, where citizen groups pushed to get garbage kiosks for solid waste management and it is being implemented. We have been able to submit ward road requests too," he said. At Tulasi Layout in Kasavanahalli, senior citizens pooled in money and got the roads fixed.

> **Ward committees are not being informed properly. The frequency of the meetings has to be increased**
>
> –Pulikeshinagar RWA member

Despite this, citizen activists think that ward committees are the right way forward. Head of Civic participation, Janaagraha, Srinivas Alavilli said, "Ward committees are more effective as they are institutional and sustainable forums. Citizen groups can be more effective in bringing short-term changes as they tend to be more focused on their demands. However, citizen groups should take part in ward committees."

Activists say the government does not have training on how to conduct ward committee meetings and a communication gap prevents the public from participating. "Currently, there is no penalty for holding award committee meetings as well," he said.

Bengaluru saw 4,219 ward committee meetings. Only 54 wards made 100-75 per cent adherence to WC meetings, 79 wards made 74-25 per cent adherence, and 65 wards had less than 25 percent adherence. Notably, 11 wards held no ward committee meetings. "The success of ward committees require equipping citizens with new skills and perspectives, and capacity building for self-governance," said Sandeep Anirudhan, Convenor of Citizens' Agenda For Bengaluru.

A shining example of a ward committee is ward number 46, JC Nagar. Notably, the area has one of the largest RWAs with around 570 houses and 2000 residents. "Last year in 2020, we were able to allocate a budget for our ward. We noticed that the BBMP portal already showed the budget already allocated and disbursed for CCTVs. When we brought up the discrepancy, within 2-3 days, the CCTVs were fixed,, Similarly, we were able to get stormwater drains cleaned, black spots fixed, parks maintained, street lights repaired, footpaths adjoining the road fixed with railings," said Vidya, a member of the ward committee.

Very little happened in ISRO in '21: Sivan

Last year only two successful PSLV missions undertaken at the station

Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) K Sivan has acknowledged there is a feeling that very little happened in ISRO in 2021 with the last few months being a lull due to the impact of the coronavirus.

During the previous year, the impact of the lockdowns was still evident and activities had to be carried out while following the covid-19 guidelines and protocols of the government, he said.

"There is a feeling that very little happened in ISRO during 2021. That feeling is primarily due to less number of launches," Sivan said in a new year message posted on the ISRO website. "The last few months were a lull period for ISRO, due to corona".

"However, as Chairman, ISRO, I am extremely proud that all of you have made very significant contributions in continuing the operational missions, conceiving many new missions, undertaking many technology development initiatives, and planning for the next decade of space activities," he told the employees of the space agency.

Last year, ISRO had only two successful PSLV missions, including the one dedicated commercial mission by its commercial arm New Space India Limited (NSIL).

GSLV F10 mission failed due to cryogenic stage anomaly. A national-level failure analysis committee was constituted and it has identified the rootcause and given its recommendations, according to Sivan.

> **ISRO, in 2021, completed a geospatial energy map of India, desertification and land degradation atlas of India**

Necessary design changes are being incorporated to improve the robustness of the systems concerned, he added.

In the space application domain, ISRO completed a geospatial energy map of India, desertification and land degradation atlas of India, dissemination of hydro-informatics products under the national hydrology project and provided support towards disaster management activities.

In the navigation area, more than 30 NavIC-enabled mobile handsets have been released in the Indian market. Also, all the major mobile chipset manufacturers have released NavIC-enabled chipsets, he said.

He said three new space science missions are in the pipeline -- 'DISHA', a twin aeronomy satellite mission, Venus mission and

ISRO-CNES joint science mission 'TRISHNA'.

The TRISHNA mission is meant for accurate mapping of land surface temperatures. This mission would be the benchmark for providing temperature data at best resolution and repeatability even globally, Sivan said.

— PTI

Minister, Cong MP almost come to blows at public event

Karnataka Higher Education Minister C N Ashwath Narayan and state's lone Congress Lok Sabha member representing Bangalore Rural D K Suresh, almost came to blows in full public view at an event in the presence of Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai here on Monday.

The government event was to unveil the statues of B R Ambedkar and Bengaluru founder Kempegowda, here.

This was also Bommai's first visit to the district as the Chief Minister.

In what seemed like a veiled attack on Congress leaders, Narayan made an aggressive speech targeting opponents.

He claimed that the present BJP government was here to win the trust of the people and not to betray them, and challenged others to prove their work, as he attacked those who allegedly tried to disturb the event by raising certain slogans.

This apparently enraged Suresh, and the MP, who was visibly angry making certain gestures, barged towards Narayan.

Security personnel and some dignitaries on the stage including Health Minister K Sudhakar intervened and separated the two.

Suresh, the younger brother of state Congress chief D K Shivakumar, was joined by Congress MLC S Ravi, who tried to snatch the mike that was used by Narayan, resulting in a melee, as the Minister forcefully grabbed the mike back from him.

Suresh and other Congress leaders subsequently sat down on the stage in protest.

Amid the protest, Bommai, addressing the gathering, said individual egos should not come in the way of respecting icons like Ambedkar and Kempegowda.

Pointing out that he has come to Ramanagara for the first time as CM, he said, "I have come here to contribute to development. The development will happen with everybody's cooperation and not by one individual....let's all work together for development...."

Suresh, who spoke later, said he would only apologize to the Chief Minister for what happened and not to anyone else, and attacked Narayan in his speech.

"Are you challenging us on the stage? fix the time....what culture is this? Did RSS teach this?.....Don't talk about our culture, we have culture. Mr Ashwath Narayan, we need not learn from you," he said.

As Suresh referred to RSS, BJP supporters among the audience objected to it.

Later, after the event, Congress workers tore up Narayan's posters as the mark of protest.

Bommai, later speaking to reporters, termed the incident as unfortunate and said it will in no way affect his government's commitment for the development of Ramanagara district. "We should all work together for development.... there is no need to create an atmosphere of election, much before the election," he said. — PTI

 # Ashish Mishra named main accused
The SIT probing the Lakhimpur Kheri violence on Monday filed a charge sheet against 14 people, including Union Minister Ajay Mishra's son Ashish, who has been named the main accused

BangaloreMirror | 8
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Practise your religion, don't indulge in hate speech: Vice President

#KOTTAYAM

Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu on Monday expressed his strong disapproval of attempts to ridicule other religions and create dissensions in the society, saying every person has the right to practice and preach his or her faith in the country.

"Practise your religion but don't abuse and indulge in hate speech and writings," the Vice President said at an event organised to mark the 150th death anniversary of Saint Kuriakose Elias Chavara, a spiritual leader and social reformer from the Kerala Catholic community, at Mannanam near here.

Observing that hate speeches and writings are against culture, heritage, traditions, constitutional rights and ethos, Naidu said secularism is in the blood of every Indian and the country is respected world-over for its culture and heritage.

In this context, the Vice President called for strengthening the Indian value system, an official statement said. The Vice President said community service must be made compulsory for students studying in government as well as private schools as it would help them to develop an attitude of sharing and caring in their interaction with others.

Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu

"Today, there is a dire need to inculcate the spirit of service from a young age in the youth of this country. Once this pandemic is behind us and normalcy returns, I would suggest that government schools as well as those in the private sector must make community service of at least two to three weeks compulsory for students," he said.

Urging youngsters to imbibe, protect and promote Indian cultural values, Naidu highlighted the importance of India's philosophy of sharing and caring for others.

He said that living for others will not only give a person a lot of satisfaction but will also make the people remember that person for a long time for his or her good deeds. **–PTI**

Covid insurance to cover Omicron treatment too

Regulator issues directive to general and health insurers

#NEW DELHI

Insurance regulator Irdai on Monday said health insurance policies that cover covid treatment costs will also cover expenses for treating infections due to Omicron.

"All health insurance policies issued by all general and health insurance companies that cover treatment costs of covid-19 also cover the costs of treatment towards Omicron variant of covid-19 as per terms and conditions of policy contract," the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) said in a release.

The regulator has issued the directive to general and health insurers in view of the growing number of cases of the Omicron variant.

The regulator has also asked insurance companies to put in place an effective coordination mechanism with all their network providers and hospitals to make available seamless cashless facilities to all policyholders in case of hospitalization and render speedy services to all policyholders.

In April 2020 also, Irdai had clarified that all the indemnity based health insurance products that cover the treatment costs of hospitalisation offered by all general and health insurance companies cover the costs of hospitalisation treatment on account of covid-19.

A girl poses for a picture after receiving a dose of COVAXIN, during a vaccination drive for children aged 15–18 in New Delhi

Total 1,700 cases of Omicron variant of coronavirus have been detected across 23 states and Union Territories so far, out of which 639 have recovered or migrated, according to the Union health ministry's data updated on Monday.

Maharashtra has recorded the maximum number of 510 cases, followed by Delhi (351), Kerala (156), Gujarat (136), Tamil Nadu (121) and Rajasthan (120).

India's covid tally rose to 3,49,22,882 with 33,750 fresh cases, according to the data updated at 8 am.

The death toll climbed to 4,81,893 with 123 more fatalities, the data showed. The active cases have increased to 1,45,582 comprising 0.42 per cent of the total infections, while the national covid-19 recovery rate was recorded at 98.20 per cent, the health ministry said. **–PTI**

9 score overall 100 percentile in CAT

Nine candidates have scored an overall 100 percentile, topping the Common Admission Test (CAT) 2021, results declared by IIM Ahmedabad, the organising institute have revealed. For the fourth year running, all the candidates are male.

Seven of the toppers are from engineering backgrounds; two are from non-engineering ones, said a statement issued by M P Ram Mohan, CAT Convener, 2021.

Maharashtra has the highest number of 100 percentilers at four, followed by Uttar Pradesh with two and one each from West Bengal, Haryana and Telangana.

Despite women accounting for nearly 35% of the 1.92 lakh candidates who appeared for CAT 2021, none of them have made it to the 100 percentilers list. Two women and three non-engineers had last made it among the 20 toppers in CAT 2017.

19 candidates – again all of them male -- have scored an overall 99.99 percentile in CAT 2021. Out of the 19 candidates, 16 candidates are from engineering backgrounds.

There is one female engineer among the 19 candidates – 15 of them from engineering backgrounds -- who scored an overall 99.98 percentile.

Management course aspirants at a CAT centre in Bengaluru

CAT 2021 was conducted in three shifts on November 28, 2021 at 438 test centres spread across 156 cities in India on 28 November 2021.

IIMs will now release their shortlists for subsequent admission processes based on, among other things, the CAT 2021 scores.

88 non-IIM institutions will also use CAT 2021 scores this year for admission into their management programmes.

–Sreeradha Basu, ET Online

Sri Lanka could go bankrupt this year

#NEW DELHI

Sri Lanka is facing a deepening financial and humanitarian crisis with fears it could go bankrupt in 2022 as inflation rises to record levels, food prices rocket and its coffers run dry, The Guardian reported.

The meltdown faced by the government, led by the strongman president Gotabaya Rajapaksa, is in part caused by the immediate impact of the Covid crisis and the loss of tourism but is compounded by high government spending and tax cuts eroding state revenues, vast debt repayments to China and foreign exchange reserves at their lowest levels in a decade, the report said.

WORLD

People queue to buy LPG cylinders in Colombo

Inflation has meanwhile been spurred by the government printing money to pay off domestic loans and foreign bonds.

The World Bank estimates 500,000 people have fallen below the poverty line since the beginning of the pandemic, the equivalent of five years' progress in fighting poverty.

Inflation hit a record high of 11.1 per cent in November and escalating prices have left those who were previously well off struggling to feed their families, while basic goods are now unaffordable for many, The Guardian reported. After Rajapaksa declared Sri Lanka to be in an economic emergency, the military was given power to ensure essential items, including rice and sugar, were sold at set government prices – but it has done little to ease people's woes, the report added. **–IANS**

'All women MPs should be allowed to testify'

#NEW DELHI

The only woman member of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports Sushmita Dev on Monday wrote to the Committee Chairperson Vinay Sahayabuddhe to invoke Rule 84 (1) to enable women MPs to testify before Committee examining the Prohibition of Child Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 2021.

In her letter to the Committee Chairperson, the TMC MP said, "The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports is currently in the process of examining the Prohibition of Child Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 2021 which proposes to raise the marriageable age for women to 21 years... Presently, I am the sole woman member in a committee of 31 members."

"In reference to this, and under Rules 84(3) and 275 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States (Rajya Sabha), I wish to propose that any woman member of both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha be empowered to testify either in writing or in person before the Committee on this issue," the letter stated. "The Rajya Sabha has 29 women members, and the Lok Sabha has 81 women members, and I am sure all my honourable female colleagues will have much to contribute to the discussion on this issue..." **–ANI**

TMC MP Sushmita Dev is the only woman in the committee

HEALTH TIP: Rich in proteins, fibre and essential minerals, bajra is one of the healthiest options among grains that are available because of it being gluten free

Seeds such as hemp, sunflower are rich in omega-6 fatty acid, which regulates genes and promotes immune health

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BEST OF
DR MAHINDER WATSA

The finest responses of Dr Watsa are being republished in this column as a tribute to him.

1 My nephew, aged 26 years, got married to a nurse. Before the engagement he revealed his sheath. Still she agreed to marry him, saying she had seen such cases in his nursing life. Their honeymoon was unhappy and within 15 days he went abroad assuring her that he will undergo an operation. Seven months later she also went abroad to lead a married life with him. Unfortunately she returned within one week. Before she joined him, he had undergone the required operation. After living together for only 22 days for two years, they mutually agreed to separate and are now divorced. He met a sexologist who confirms he has no problem in leading a sex life. My query is, is it possible to have a penetrative sex with a sheath?. After the operation, does it affect the erection and appearance of the penis?

I am deciphering the word 'sheath' as a tight foreskin, which I assume has been operated upon. There is more to the relationship than meets the eye. For some reason he was unable to make her sexually happy.

2 I am 20 years old and my boyfriend is 21. We have been in a elationship for four years. We are planning to have sex for the first time. As we both are inexperienced, we would like your advice on precautions and consequences during and after sex. Do we need to have any tests first? What else should we careful about?

Before starting any activity, read up about matters of sex education on the internet. You may also read books such as 'It's Normal', which are available online or at local bookstores.

MEET THE SEXPERTS

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Hair-raising tale

As compared to other seasons, winter offers a variety of benefits after hair transplant

Choosing to have a hair transplant is a significant step because it entails completely changing your personality. It is immediately seen by everyone, and it has the potential to increase certain people's self-esteem and self-image. Seasons undoubtedly have a profound impact on our bodies.

"The changes in the face and hair are more obvious than the alterations in the internal organs. As a result, one should consider the seasonal influence before making any modifications to one's hair", says Dr Amrendra Kumar, Consultant Dermatologist and Hair Transplant Surgeon, Director of DermaClinix.

What is a hair transplant

Hair transplant surgery is a minimally invasive treatment that involves extracting hair roots from behind the scalp or other regions of the body. Hair is removed from the bald spot and placed into it. The two most prevalent procedures for hair transplantation are follicular unit transplant (FUT) and follicular unit extraction (FUE).

The key distinction between these two treatments is the hair extraction method. FUT involves removing healthy hair follicles from the rear of the scalp's epidermis. Although this technique can yield great, natural-looking results, it is more intrusive and takes longer to heal.

Bio enhanced simultaneous transplant FUE method is a new FUE method that has been updated to provide higher graft survival. Hairs are implanted concurrently in this approach to decrease outside body time of the graft to a minimum, while no touch to root technique is used during implantation to avoid any injury to the hair roots, and liposomal ATP supplementation is used to deliver energy to the grafted follicles.

Flakes are more likely to form in the winter, but they may be readily controlled. If they become thickened and sticky, they can stifle new hair growth.

Is winter the best time for a hair transplant?

Hair transplantation is most effective when you are mentally and emotionally prepared for your new look and have sufficient free time. The disadvantages of both seasons can be avoided with modern household appliances. Stress can hinder hair development and healing, therefore it's also crucial to stay stress-free.

If all of the precautions indicated by the doctors are followed, there is no substantial difference in the results of winter and summer hair transplants. Rather than the season, the transplant surgeon's competence and expertise decide the outcome. Hair roots are implanted deep within the skin, where the temperature is typically stable and unaffected by external factors.

When it comes to hair transplantation, each season offers its own set of benefits and drawbacks. Winter, on the other hand, offers a variety of benefits, including -- Low sunburn risk- Without the summer sun, there is less risk of sweat or sunburn causing infection at the transplant site, resulting in a faster recovery for the patient.

Discreet recovery: The winter season is a busy time for people to travel. As a result, the holiday season allows patients to recover discreetly from their transplant by remaining at home (if they choose to). If they want to go outside, they can do so while wearing a hat.

Summers, on the other hand, encourage healthier skin and implanted hair regrowth, according to recent research. Avoid direct sunlight and swimming for at least three weeks after the surgery throughout the summer. The healing process is hampered by direct sunshine, which destroys the implanted hairs.

While various factors influence a hair transplant, the final decision is yours to make as long as you maintain continuous follow-up treatment. The timing you choose should, in most situations, have no bearing on your recovery process. **—IANS**

MIRRORLIGHTS

Tips to drape pashmina shawl

Pashmina shawls are a source of pride for many Indians, including weavers, because of their opulent elegance, artistic beauty, and great warmth. They are a lavish and vital component of Indian traditional dress, handcrafted with rich embroideries, and with winter approaching, many of us may be considering presenting one to a loved one, or even to ourselves! However, because of its high price, there are many fakes and knockoff Pashmina shawls on the market. It would be simple to be entirely swindled and disappointed if you didn't know how to spot the genuine ones.

So, to help you out, Nishant Malhotra, founder, Weaverstory shares five tips to keep in mind while buying Pashmina shawls this winter!

100 per cent Cashmere: Pashmina shawls are made of cashmere, the wool of Himalayan goats, and so always make sure to check or inquire about what the shawl is made of. All authentic Pashmina shawls are made of 100 per cent cashmere, and authentic sellers are also aware and particular about the same.

Fibre diametre: Authentic pashmina fabric will have fibres just about 15 -19 microns in diameter, making them thinner than human hair. That low micron count is what makes Pashmina shawls feel light and soft, yet luxurious. So, checking the fibres before buying one is a must.

Uneven weave: Cashmere wool is extremely delicate, because of which it can only be spun by hand. As such, authentic Pashmina shawls will always have irregularities in the weave, making them uneven in places, which won't be there in machine-woven fakes.

Check for static electricity: By rubbing the fabric with your hands, you'll be able to check if it is made from authentic animal wool fibres or not. Synthetic fabrics create a lot of static electricity when rubbed together, causing the hair on your body to stand on end.

Check the label: As a rule of thumb, all authentic Pashmina shawls will carry a label calling out the make and composition proudly. But, real Pashminas will always have the tag stitched onto the hem because it cannot be glued or stuck onto the fabric.

– IANS

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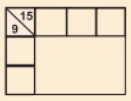
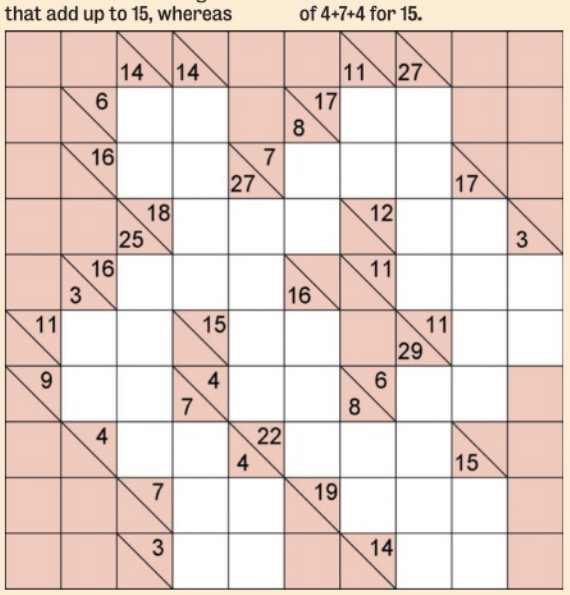
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

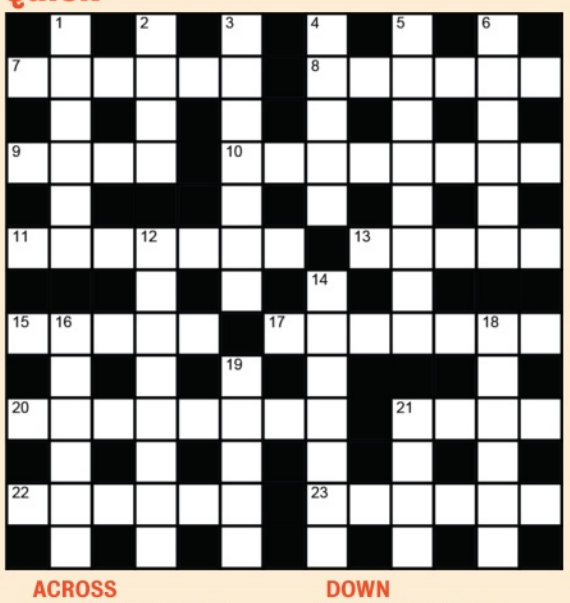


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Russian greyhound (6)
8 Reproductions (6)
9 Teller of falsehoods (4)
10 Birth to death (8)
11 Showing boredom with the trap open? (7)
13 Metallic-sounding (5)
15 Molten rock (5)
17 Natural skills (7)
20 Drinking to health of (8)
21 Intense anger (4)
22 Particles of falling snow (6)
23 Scandinavian–"in cord" anagram? (6)

DOWN

1 California city Santa ____ (6)
2 Russian potentate (4)
3 Depriving of life (7)
4 Short time periods? (5)
5 Occurring intermittently (4-4)
6 Parasitic insects (6)
12 Best, to Buchanan (8)
14 Scrounging or sponging? (7)
16 Hospital on Bannerghatta Road (6)
18 Muddy and thick, not clear (6)
19 Booth; stand (5)
21 It might keep you warm (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: Z EQUALS D

ZA QAS XNCS SA KSVCIM SCTT SEM CVAQ CK EAS; JRS FNIM CS EAS JH KSVCICQY.

Linemaro

Your magnetic aura is attractive. Is there some magnet inside you?

Mindchow

If you're headed in the wrong direction, God allows U-turns

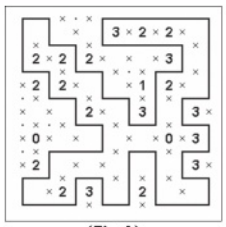
Joke of the day

Alcohol does not solve any problems, but then again, neither does milk

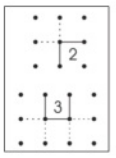
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)



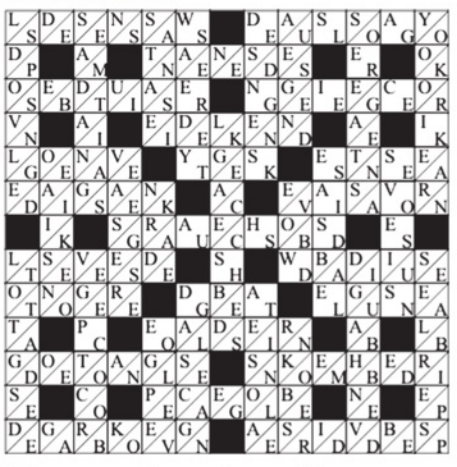
(Fig B) Not Allowed

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

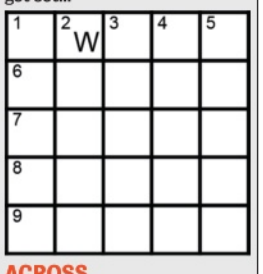
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 SG saw; 6 Other; 7 Reedy; 8 Radio; 9 Sperm

DOWN

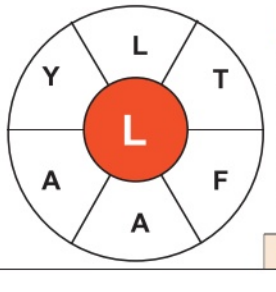
1 Parts; 2 Hewer; 3 Rad or; 4 I'm goy; 5 See SD

Mensapuzzle

Which number replaces the question mark and completes the puzzle?

10	
8	13
16	6
4	19
22	?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

07 Average; 08 Good; 10 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

		8			7	5		
	4			9				8
		6		8	3		2	
7				3		2		
		2				6		
		3		6				9
	7		3	1		9		
9				4			6	
		4	5			3		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 9
3 5 6 7

Medium = 21
3 6 9 9

Hard = 14
3 6 7 3

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Pencil is moved. 2. Lamp is moved. 3. Bear is smaller. 4. Book on shelf is missing. 5. Back of chair is different. 6. Window reflection lines are reversed.

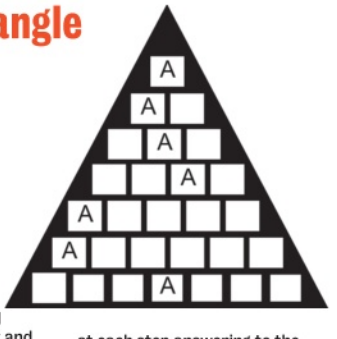
Riddler

Find a rhyme for each word below so you end up with a familiar three-word phrase in the form "__, __, and __"

1. Bawl, Park, Ransom
2. Sprawl, Tedium, Barge
3. Trap, Shackle, Top
4. Stool, Qualm, Expected

Alpha triangle

1 Blood gr.
2 A's alternative
3 Author Brown
4 College official
5 Battery terminal
6 Made amends
7 Gave as a grant



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

MEDICINE MAN, WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU GET TIRED, NERVOUS, AND HAVE A HEADACHE ?
I TAKE WHAT 9 OUT OF 10 DOCTORS TAKE THEMSELVES
WHAT'S NEXT BEST? I CAN'T AFFORD A TWO-WEEK CRUISE OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC
10-21

Bizarrotrip

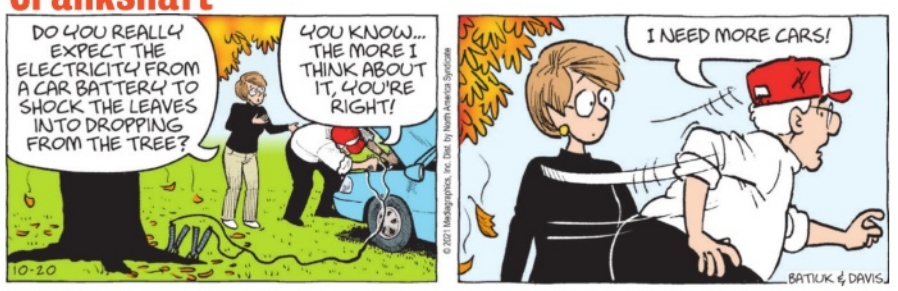
Wayno & Piraro 11-1-21
It's time for mournful wailing. I'll go first, then you give it a try.
TAKE YOUR NEXT of KIN to WORK DAY
BIZARRO.COM

Diamond Lil

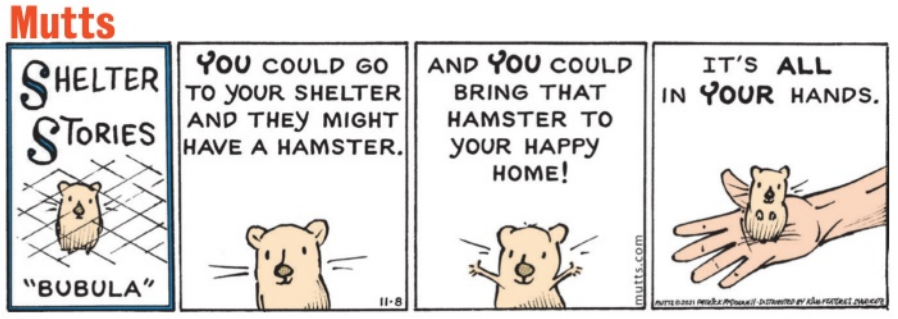
Hart of the city

HEART, YOU'VE BEEN DOING SO WELL LEARNING ALL THE PARTS OF THE PLAY THAT I THINK YOU SHOULD BE OUR SWING.
WE NEED AN EXTRA PERSON IN THE CHORUS IN ACT ONE, AND AN EXTRA DANCER IN ACT TWO, SO THAT THE STAGING IS MORE SYMMETRICAL.
YES! I CAN DO ALL OF THAT! AND IF YOU NEED AN EXTRA TREE, I CAN DO THAT TOO!
THAT'S THE SPIRIT! TREE #6 HAS ARRIVED!

Crankshaft


DO YOU REALLY EXPECT THE ELECTRICITY FROM A CAR BATTERY TO SHOCK THE LEAVES INTO DROPPING FROM THE TREE?
YOU KNOW... THE MORE I THINK ABOUT IT, YOU'RE RIGHT!
I NEED MORE CARS!
BATIUK & DAVIS
10-20

Mutts


SHELTER STORIES
"BUBULA"
YOU COULD GO TO YOUR SHELTER AND THEY MIGHT HAVE A HAMSTER.
AND YOU COULD BRING THAT HAMSTER TO YOUR HAPPY HOME!
IT'S ALL IN YOUR HANDS.
mutts.com

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
You may enjoy work and get promoted due to your hard work. You may help the needy, so your respect in society may improve. Overworking of mind may make you tired due to your work load. You may miss a family meeting. Parents' health may recover.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Projects which were stopped without reason, may resume automatically. You may be satisfied at work. You may plan a short work-related trip. You may visit some religious place to maintain your internal strength. Your elders may show you the right path, to help achieve your goals.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you may feel dull and face health-related issues. Keep your mind cool. Read documents carefully before signing them. You may face difficulty in recovering your money. You are also advised to avoid adventurous tours. Students are advised to be thorough in studies for success. You may be attracted to occult.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
You may be busy at home. You may buy some artefacts or creative stuff to renovate your house, which may boost your social status. You may also invest in properties and other fixed assets. You are likely to enjoy romantic moments with your spouse, which may boost your emotional bond. Singles may hear good news in terms of marriage.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
You may feel happy. Old health issues related to elders may get cured. Money which was stuck, may get recovered now. This may boost your financial health. People may change their job to seek a promotion. Job seekers may find jobs with the help of a friend's reference.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you may prefer gaining knowledge and may understand the value of intellectual assets. You may control your short temperedness, which may help you perform your task smoothly. There may be chances to acquire smooth earnings, which may help your work flow. You are advised to be careful while investing in assets. You are likely to spend money for love once.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may feel dull and may not be able to enjoy moments. You may be in a hurry to complete a task given to you. You may make silly mistakes. Your working efficiency may be slow. Projects may get delayed. This may affect your professional life. Before making any important decisions, take advice from your elders.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may be energetic and may be more focused, which may speed up your task. Subordinates may help you to start a new project, which may yield profit in the near future. You may expect short trips related to family issues. Job seekers may hear good news.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
You may use your creativity at office or at home, which may enhance your social status. You may be able to control your expenditure on worthless things, which may boost your savings. Love birds may receive support from their family members for marriage. Students may hear good news in terms of academics.

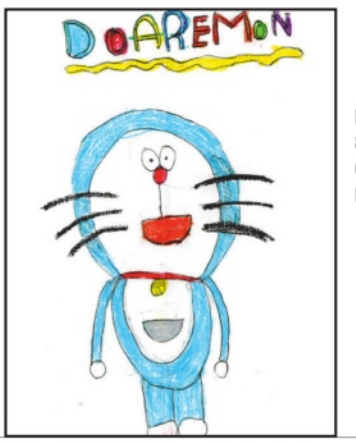
Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
You may feel relaxed after a messy situation. Your inner strength may help you implement some difficult decisions in your family business, which may help to grow the business. You may help the needy, which may boost your respect in society. Students may attain clarity regarding choosing their career options .

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
You may feel dull and your health may not be good. You may also experience anxiety and restlessness. Postpone important investments in business or real estate. Avoid rash driving. Avoid long-distance travelling. Meditate for sound sleep.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, blessing from elders may make you happy. Investments may yield profits. Losses will get converted to profits too. Your savings may boost your bank balance. You may plan to invest in your children's future too. You may enjoy delicious food at home. Your problems related to throat, teeth, ear or nose may get resolved now.

KIDZONE

Abhiraj Nair, 8 Years, Rayan International School



Keerthana M, 8 Years, Goodwill Girls High School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
√(3×3×4) = √(36) = 6

BULL'S EYE
allay, ally, tall, fatal, FATALLY, flat, flaty, flay, tall, tally

FAST FIVE

S	W	A	G	S
T	H	R	O	E
R	E	D	Y	E
A	R	O	I	D
P	E	R	M	S

QUOTE UNCODE
Do not wait to strike till the iron is hot; but make it hot by striking.

RIDDLER
1. Tall, Dark, and Handsome, 2. Small, Medium, and Large, 3. Snap, Crackle, and Pop, 4. Cool, Calm and Collected

STRIKE OUT

D	A	R	K	E	N	_	A	S	I	D	E	S
E	_	O	_	E	A	G	L	E	_	E	_	E
_	K	_	G	A	U	C	H	O	S	_	S	_
E	A	G	A	N	_	A	_	V	I	S	O	R
_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
N	_	I	_	I	D	L	E	D	_	A	_	K
_	G	_	O	N	E	_	Y	E	S	_	S	_
E	_	O	_	E	D	S	_	R	_	E	_	R
_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
O	B	T	U	S	E	_	G	E	I	G	E	R
_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
P	_	A	_	N	E	E	D	S	_	R	_	O
E	S	E	S	A	W	_	E	U	L	O	G	Y

QUICK

M	_	C	_	K	_	J	_	P	_	V	_	D
_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
B	O	R	Z	O	I	_	I	M	A	G	E	S
_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
N	_	A	_	L	_	F	_	R	_	R	_	_
_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
L	I	A	R	_	L	I	F	E	T	I	M	E
_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
_	C	_	I	_	S	_	T	_	I	_	_	_
Y	A	W	N	I	N	G	_	T	I	N	N	Y
_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
_	A	_	G	_	C	_	M	_	_	_	_	_
M	A	G	M	A	_	T	A	L	E	N	T	S
_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
P	_	E	_	K	_	D	_	U	_	_	_	_
T	O	A	S	T	I	N	G	_	F	U	R	Y
_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
L	_	A	_	O	_	I	_	O	_	I	_	B
_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
F	L	A	K	E	S	_	N	O	R	D	I	C
_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
O	_	E	_	K	_	G	_	E	_	D	_	_

MENSA PUZZLE
2. Starting with the 10 at the top, one set of numbers increases by 3 each time, written in alternate boxes as you move down the diagram, and the other set of numbers decreases by 2, written in the boxes remaining.

SUDOKU

3	1	8	4	2	7	5	9	6
2	4	7	6	9	5	1	3	8
5	9	6	1	8	3	4	2	7
7	6	9	8	3	1	2	5	4
4	5	3	7	6	2	8	1	9
1	8	2	9	5	4	6	7	3
9	3	1	2	4	8	7	6	5
8	7	5	3	1	6	9	4	2
6	2	4	5	7	9	3	8	1

ALPHA TRIANGLE
A, An, Dan, Dean, Anode, Atoned, Donated.

GO FIGURE
3 – 6 + 5 + 7 = 9
Easy
9 + 9 + 6 – 3 = 21
Medium
6 x 3 + 3 – 7 = 14
Hard

LOOP

KAKURO

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 # Bowie music catalog with Warner Music Group
Warner Music Group's publishing unit has bought late British rock star David Bowie's entire catalog spanning six decades, including hits such as "Heroes" and "Let's Dance"

BangaloreMirror | 12
Tuesday, January 4, 2022
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Just the three of us

Each time Vamika made the star couple's pics extra-special

Virat Kohli and Anushka Sharma welcomed a baby girl last year. The couple keeps sharing pictures and videos of Vamika. Whenever they step out for vacay, we get to see cute photos of their daughter. After they welcomed Vamika, the power couple released a statement requesting privacy for their daughter. They had sent out gift hampers to paparazzi, and added a personalised note requesting privacy. As Vamika continues to make be in the top trends with her adorable antics, we take a look back at five times she ruled headlines.

Her first words

Anushka Sharma made the last evening of 2021 extra special by sharing a video of her daughter Vamika trying to speak 'mumma'. The video shared by the actress doesn't include Vamika, but she can be heard off-camera. 'Best way to spend my last evening of 2021 evening', wrote Anushka.

Cheerleader for papa

Virat and Anushka are currently in South Africa for his cricket test series. During one of the matches, a picture of Anushka and Vamika from the stadium went viral on the Internet. In this picture, the actress and her little one cheered for the cricketer. Sharma looks pretty in a black ensemble with hoop earrings. She can be seen holding baby Vamika. Her daughter looked cute as a button in a white frock and her hair was tied in two ponytails.

Happy 6 months

When Vamika turned 6 months old, Anushka gave us a glimpse of their celebration in London. The couple celebrated her special day in a park in the British capital. They cut a cake. She wrote, ''Her one smile can change our whole world around!I hope we can both live up to the love with which you look at us, little one Happy 6 months to us three''.

Durga Asthami special

During Durga Asthami, Anushka had shared a special post for her daughter. She posted a cute selfie with her little one and wrote, ''Making me braver and more courageous every day. May you always find the strength of the goddess in you my little Vamika... Happy Ashtami

First family portrait

Days after welcoming Vamika, Anushka had shared her first family portrait featuring Virat and their daughter. Along with the post, she even revealed her daughter's name.

'Not a conman, was in relationship with Jacqueline'

Bollywood actress Jacqueline Fernandez, who has been making headlines for her link in Rs 200-crore money-laundering case, has steered clear from allegations of being romantically involved with the accused conman Sukesh Chandrashekhar.

Chandrashekhar is facing several cases including extortion, which he has denied stating that he is not a "conman". He has also said that he was in a relationship with Bollywood star Fernandez and his "personal relationship has no bearing on the criminal case," according to a report in ANI.

The alleged accused made these remarks in a press statement that has been released by his lawyer Advocate Anant Malik, according to ANI.

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) is currently probing the Rs 200 crore money-laundering case in which Chandrashekhar and his wife Leena Maria Paulose have been named as the main accused.

In its charge sheet, the agency has also named Nora Fatehi apart from Fernandez who are the witnesses in the matter and were earlier questioned by the ED.

Recently in the case, the ED arrested Pinki Irani, who allegedly introduced Chandrashekhar to Fernandez. According to reports, both Irani and Chandrashekhar were learnt to be confronted on the same set of questions separately as well as together for more than three hours in the jail.

—ET Online

Arjun bonds with his sisters

Bollywood actor Arjun Kapoor shares an endearing bond with his sister Anshula Kapoor. Over the years, the actor has gotten close to his step-sisters Janhvi and Khushi too and says it only after the demise of his step-mother Sridevi, that also eased out his relationship with his father Boney Kapoor.

Speaking about this, Arjun told a news portal that he's still exploring his new bond with Janhvi and Khushi. Elaborating further he says, for him to find similarities only stems from comparison to how they are similar to his father because he never got the time to sit down and analyze it earlier. "I can discover those relationships now," he said.

Of his bond with Anshula, the actor acknowledges that his connection with his real sister is "overlapping." and admits that they are 'emotionally designed the same way'. "We've been brought up by our mother in a certain way together so we are two sides of the same coin," he told a magazine.

The actor went on to share that he does bully his sisters with his snarky sense of humor. He added that he hates 'creating this fake perception that we are one happy family living under the roof and discussing everything'. Affirming this, he shared they have discussed many things, and continue to do that, but it's still an intimate space for them to come out so openly and speak about.

—ETimes

Janet Jackson's documentary to air on January 28

A four-hour documentary on the life and career of singer Janet Jackson will premiere January 28.

Two-part film "Janet" will be simulcast on Lifetime and A&E, reported Billboard.

The release date and an extended trailer of the documentary was released on social media on Sunday.

"Happy New Year! It's the moment we've all been waiting for - night one of #JanetJacksonDoc premieres Friday, January 28th at 8/7c. @janetjackson @aetv," said Lifetime in a tweet.

The film comes in the 40th anniversary year of Janet Jackson's eponymous debut album. "Janet" will see the singer discuss her famous family, including the deaths of brother Michael and father Joseph, her late-in-life motherhood to a moment where her team was approached by Justin Timberlake "about doing the Super Bowl," which Timberlake was headlining in 2018.

At the time, she had taken to social media to shut down rumours that they would be reuniting on the halftime show stage.

Janet Jackson and Timberlake had a fallout after their controversial 2004 Super Bowl performance.

Last year, Timberlake addressed his complicity in Jackson's career downturn after one of her breasts was exposed during their infamous halftime show performance in the wake of the criticism he received for ill treating his former girlfriend and singer Britney Spears as depicted in the explosive documentary "Framing Britney Spears". Timberlake apologised to both Spears and Jackson for his past actions.

Ben Hirsch, known for documentaries on Idris Elba and "Bruno v Tyson", serves as director on "Janet".

Janet Jackson also serves as an executive producer on the documentary alongside Randy Jackson (no relation) and Workerbee's Rick Murray and A+E Networks' Miranda Bryant.

"Janet" gives exclusive access to archival footage, unseen home videos and interviews with famous stars like Missy Elliott, Whoopi Goldberg, Samuel L Jackson, Mariah Carey and Ciara.

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